



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the Honoka'a Jazz Band was founded in 1978 by Musical Director Gary Washburn and 11 students; and

**WHEREAS**, since 1989, the Honoka'a Jazz Band has traveled to O'ahu each year to participate in the O'ahu Band Directors Association Annual Jazz Festival in April to celebrate National Jazz Appreciation Month; and

**WHEREAS**, with the help of the Hamakua Music Festival, the band has performed with world-class artists, including David Benoit, Ollie Mitchell, Paul Kreibick, Luther Hughes, Marcia Ball, and Johnny Nicolas; and

**WHEREAS**, the band has served as the entertainment for the Friends for Youth Transition Conventions on Hawai'i Island with Frank Delima, performed with Melveen Leed as part of the Lōkahi Tree Project, and performed for national conventions held on Hawai'i Island, including the National Veterans Association and Upward Bound during which they received standing ovations; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010, the Honoka'a High & Intermediate School was recognized by the National Association of Music Merchants Foundation as one of 138 schools in the nation with an outstanding music education program; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2011, the band was one of only 36 schools out of 22,000 eligible schools in the U.S. to receive a GRAMMY Signature Schools Award; and

**WHEREAS**, Gary Washburn was recognized as a National Society of High School Scholars' Claes Nobel Educator of Distinction in 2011 and as a Living Treasure of Hawai'i in 2013; and

**WHEREAS**, the band has performed on National Public Radio as part of the Hawai'i edition of "From the Top" in 2009, was featured in the June 2012 edition of "Hana Hou: The Magazine of Hawaiian Airlines," was repeatedly featured on CNN's Jazz Alley, and has recorded 17 CDs of a wide variety of jazz standards and original songs; and

**WHEREAS**, in conjunction with National Jazz Appreciation Month in April and UNESCO International Jazz Day on April 30, communities, schools, artists, historians, and jazz enthusiasts around the world will celebrate and learn about jazz as an art form that promotes peace, diversity and freedom of expression;

**THEREFORE I, DAVID Y. IGE, Governor, and I, JOSHUA B. GREEN, Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as**

## **"JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH"**

in Hawai'i and ask the people of the Aloha State to join us in applauding the Honoka'a Jazz Band for their ongoing excellence and recognizing the importance of music education in our schools and the role of jazz music in uniting cultures in a global environment.

Done at the State Capitol, in Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this first day of April 2019.

JOSHUA B. GREEN  
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i